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Borough of Thetford.



ANNUAL REPORT  
of the  
MEDICAL OFFICER OF HEALTH  
together with the  
REPORT OF THE  
PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR  
FOR THE YEAR  
1968



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STAFF

Medical Officer of Health:

A. Afnan, M.D., D.L.O., D.P.H., L.A.H.

Public Health Inspector:

R. C. R. Robinson, M.A.P.H.I., A.R.S.H.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have the honour to present to you my annual report on the health service of the year 1968.

The Registrar General's mid-year estimate for population was 10,870. There were 254 live births of which 16 were illegitimate.

During the year there were 86 deaths and the adjusted death rate is 5.4

The captains of death are Ischaemic heart diseases and cancer. Also high on the list are cerebro-vascular accidents.

The dominant modern epidemic is Ischaemic heart disease, and because it seems to strike out of the blue and often fatally, it generates as much fantasy about its causes as fears in the man, his wife and his doctor.

Despite the effective control of hypertension by modern drugs, it is disappointing that the death rate from strokes have shown so little change during the last 30 years.

Bronchitis is essentially a working man's killer and his personal air pollution from cigarette smoking is the common and dominant factor, at least in this self-destruction from coronary castastrophe, lung cancer and bronchitis.

The advent of anti-biotics has produced its "miracles" mainly in infancy and childhood and in pneumonia and other bacterial diseases. When however, they come to middle and later years with a lifetime of wear and tear on ageing tissues, with mixed virus infections, even the latest anti-biotics are not a wonder cure.

Britain is drinking more alcohol than ever before. Over the past 10 years the amount spent has risen from £91 1 millions in 1958 to £1585 millions. In 1967 more than £25 million was spent on advertising alcohol, an increase of £9 millions compared with 1958.

Also more people are spending a greater proportion of their income on drink than previously.

The increase has resulted in a corresponding rise in drunkenness particularly among young people.

In 1959 the incidence of proved drunkenness in that group was nearly 18.8 per 10,000; in 1967 it was 25.3 - an increase of over one third. The efforts of the drink trade to boost alcohol sales by intensive advertising can not be divorced from the emergence of the growing rate of drunkenness, particularly among the younger sections of the community.



The report from the Wootton Committee on Drug Dependence on cannabis smoking, suggests less severe penalties while not legalising its use. If the penalties are reduced it would amount to a semi-official opinion that the drug is not really very dangerous, (no more so than, say, alcohol). The Geneva officials of the United Nations Narcotics Drug Division described as foolish and dangerous any move to legalise the drug.

The British Medical Association believes that it should be subject to reliable forms of control.

More and more people could become addicted and go onto the more dangerous narcotics such as heroin. Dr. Elizabeth Tylden, Consultant Psychiatrist at University College Hospital, London, states that "All the people who have worked with heroin say that the first drug these people took was cannabis. We did not have a heroin problem with people under 20 before cannabis became popular.

It is estimated that as many as one million people probably smoke cannabis in this country. Of necessity it comes from an unscrupulous, criminal black market. The drug underground has an additional fascination for the unstable, and for those who see it as one way to demonstrate against established authority, simply because it is underground.

To stem the leakage of amphetamine tablets (Pep Pills) from manufacturers, wholesalers and retailers is of great importance. No national figures are available on the number of thefts from pharmacies, but, they are known to have increased recently. Small-time criminals know that these drugs are easily marketable and will show higher profits than cases of whisky.

At the moment there is no legislation to make security arrangements compulsory. There is a further difficulty in prosecuting the hawkers of the pep-pills. Unless a person can actually be proved to have taken money for the illegal sale of these drugs, he can only be charged with illegal possession and this is liable to no greater penalty than the teenager to whom he may have sold the pills.

The new laws with regard to breathalyser, tyres and seat belts have made roads much safer. In the first 12 months of the breathalyser road deaths had fallen by 1,152 and serious cases of injury by 11,177. In financial terms, £11 millions which would have been otherwise written off in sickness, medical costs and police time, has been saved. Casualties between the times of 10 p.m. and 4 a.m. have been reduced by 33 per cent compared with a general figure of 4 percent for other times. The reduction between Saturday night and Sunday morning is 40-42 per cent

According to a survey by the Automobile Association two million motorists in Britain regularly drive under the influence of pills or medicine which may have side effects ranging from dizziness to outright collapse.

Some of these drugs may be antihistamines, tranquilisers and slimming pills which perhaps were never thought of as having any relevance to driving. It may be that some of these drugs could, at least for some people in some medical conditions, have potentially dangerous effects, even though the driver remained unconscious of them. The Automobile Association has initiated an important line of enquiry. It is obviously too soon to jump to conclusions but it would also be wrong to leave questions raised waiting indefinitely for an answer.

During the year immunisation against measles was introduced and was offered at schools and infant welfare clinics. It was administered by a single injection usually to children in their second year. This would seem a reduction of suffering and family distress caused by measles.

In an epidemic year (every other year) the number of notified cases of measles might rise as high as  $\frac{3}{4}$  of a million. About one per cent of patients might have illnesses necessitating admission to hospital. Between 1962 and 1966 measles caused 434 deaths, 100 more than those attributable to diphtheria, polio, smallpox and whooping cough.

The vaccine has been used in Britain since 1963 and in the U.S.A. since 1962. It is not known how long it lasts, but, experience will show whether booster doses are required. So far the evidence is that the vaccine gives an immunity as strong as that held by people who have had the disease.

Many drugs have been developed in the past thirty or forty years to the enormous benefit of mankind. Most of them have undesirable side effects of one kind or another. There is always likely to be some balance of advantage and risk. Of all the new drugs, we most need to have a balanced view on the contraceptive pill. The contraceptive pill has now been widely tested in different forms and in many Countries. Its side effects have been closely studied, and it is constantly being improved. But because it has been in use for only about ten years we shall not know for another ten years or so what its long term consequence may be. But up to date the most conscientious medical reports have been reassuring. There is no evidence that it is a cause of cancer. The children of mothers who have been taking the pill are healthy (we shall have to wait to see if there has been any effect on their fertility).

There does seem to be a small risk of developing thrombotic complaints, but no more so than in pregnancy and it is a risk very much less than that of terminating an unwanted pregnancy by abortion. All in all it would seem that there is rather less risk from the contraceptive pill than there is from alcohol or aspirin, (which do not happen to be so newsworthy currently).

Setting aside the theological controversy, the social consequences are of the utmost importance. The pill is not only the most reliable but the least complicated contraceptive. Social workers concerned with the problems of large families and bad housing see it as perhaps their most important aid. There is little evidence that its use has led to increased promiscuity, though it has helped to establish more relaxed and satisfying relationships among married couples and between those who may be termed unpromiscuous extra-marital couples. Most people would agree that this has been good for relations between the sexes.

The dangers of contracting disease from pets is real, and probably growing. Apart from dangers from exotic animals, there are risks from puppies and kittens. About one in five of dogs and cats in the London area are infected with *Toxocara* worms. And the *Toxocara* larvae can cause encephalitis and haemorrhage, and may play an important part in the causation of asthma and epilepsy.

Puppies and kittens that are not house trained should not be allowed in households where there are young children and pet shops should ask a veterinary surgeon to treat puppies and kittens before selling them as pets.

Monkeys emerge as a particular hazard. They are not subject to quarantine, yet they are proven carriers of rabies and are known to transmit at least two fatal viruses or virus like diseases, and have caused serious outbreaks of bacterial dysentery.

Although dogs and cats are quarantined, many animals and birds which can and do bite, and which are known carriers of rabies, can be freely imported and are becoming more and more common in pet shops. Examples are gerbils, mouse like creatures from Africa, striped squirrels from Korea, Indian otters, mongooses and ferrets.

Unnecessary handling of pets should be avoided, but, if they have been handled, the hands should be washed before preparing food or eating. This is even more important in the case of expectant mothers. Domestic food must be protected from pets at all times and they should be kept off tables and kitchen surfaces.

Animals should be trained not to pollute lawns, pavements and childrens play areas, sandpits should be covered to prevent animals defaecating in them. Raw meat for pet food is an unwise buy. This by law is stained a green colour. It is a serious health danger as it comes from possibly diseased animals, killed without meat inspection of any kind. Pets dishes must be kept and washed separately from household dishes and allowed to drain without wiping.

In conclusion I wish to thank the Chairman and members of the Public Health Committee for their support and consideration extended throughout the year and also express my appreciation to all members of the staff for their conscientious assistance.

A. Afnan



Table 1    GENERAL STATISTICS

Area (in acres)	7,096
Estimated Resident Population	10,870
Rateable Value	£487,971
Sum produced by a Penny Rate	£2,075

Table 2    LIVE BIRTHS

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	114	124	238
Illegitimate	8	8	16
Totals	122	132	254

Live Birth Rate per 1,000 of estimated Resident Population: Crude: 23.4.  
Adjusted: 23.8

Table 3    STILL BIRTHS

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Totals	1	1	2

Still Birth Rate per 1,000 total births: 8.

Table 4    TOTAL BIRTHS

	Males	Females	Total
Live	122	132	254
Still	1	1	2
Totals	123	133	256

Table 5    INFANT DEATHS

(a) Infant Mortality (Deaths of Infants under 1 year)

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	2	2	4
Illegitimate	-	1	1
Totals	2	3	5

Infant Mortality Rates:  
Total                = 20 (per 1,000 live births)

(b) Neo-Natal Mortality (Deaths of Infants during first four weeks)

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	-	1	1
Totals	1	2	3

Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births) = 11.8

(c) Early Neo-Natal Mortality (Deaths of Infants under 1 week)

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	-	-	-
Totals	1	1	2

Early Neo-Natal Mortality Rate (per 1000 live births)

(d) Perinatal Mortality (Still births and deaths under 1 week)

	Males	Females	Total
Legitimate	1	1	2
Illegitimate	-	1	1
Totals	1	2	3

Perinatal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 births) = ~~20~~ 11.8

Table 6 ILLEGITIMATE BIRTHS

Males - 8 Females - 8 Total - 16 = 6.2% of Total Live Births.

Table 7 MATERNAL DEATHS (including abortion) = Nil.

Maternal Mortality Rate (per 1,000 total births) = Nil.

Table 8 DEATHS (All Ages)

Males	Females	Total
32	54	86

Crude Death Rate (per 1,000 of estimated Resident Population)= 7.9

Adjusted Death Rate (per 1,000 of estimated Resident Population)= 5.4

Table 9      CAUSE OF DEATH OF INFANTS UNDER ONE YEAR

	Males	Females	Total
Intestinal obstruction and hernia	1	1	2
Birth injury, difficult labour	-	1	1
Other causes of Perinatal mortality	1	-	1
All other accidents	-	1	1
Totals	2	3	5

Table 10      NOTIFICATIONS OF DEATH RECEIVED DURING THE YEAR  
(According to Age Groups)

	Males	Females	Total
Under 4 weeks	1	2	3
4 weeks and under 1 year	1	1	2
1 and under 5	—	—	—
5 " " 15	—	—	—
15 " " 25	—	—	—
25 " " 35	2	—	2
35 " " 45	—	—	—
45 " " 55	3	2	5
55 " " 65	4	6	10
65 " " 75	9	11	20
75 and over	12	32	44
Totals	32	54	86

Table 11

CAUSE OF TOTAL DEATHS (Registrar-General)

International No.	Cause	Males	Females	Total
B19 (2)	Malignant neoplasm - lungs, bronchus	3	-	3
B19 (3)	Malignant neoplasm - breast	-	1	1
B19 (5)	Leukaemia	-	1	1
B19 (6)	other malignant neoplasm, etc.	2	4	6
B27	Hypertensive diseases	3	3	6
B28	Ischaemic Heart diseases	10	7	17
B29	other forms of heart diseases	2	3	5
B30	Cerebro-Vascular diseases	3	18	21
1346 (5)	other diseases of circulatory system	2	2	4
B32	Pneumonia	2	7	9
B33 (1)	Bronchitis and emphysema	1	1	2
B34	Peptic ulcer	-	1	1
B36	Intestinal obstruction & hernia	1	1	2
B46 (7)	other diseases of digestive system	-	1	1
B38	Nephritis and nephrosis	1	-	1
B43	Birth injury, difficult labour etc.	-	1	1
B44	other causes of Perinatal mortality	1	-	1
BE47	Motor vehicle accidents	1	1	2
BE48	All other accidents	-	2	2
Totals		32	54	86

Table 12 NUMBERS OF INFECTIOUS AND OTHER NOTIFIABLE DISEASES

DISEASE	Under 1	1	2	3	4	5-9	10- 14	15- 24	25- 44	45- 64	65+	Age unknown	Total
Scarlet Fever						1							1
Whooping Cough	2	3	1	2	2	11			1	1			23
Measles		1	1	1	1	2							6
Puerperal Pyrexia								1	1				2
Totals	2	4	2	3	3	14	—	1	2	1	-	-	32

Table 13 TUBERCULOSIS REGISTER

Year	Respiratory			Other			Grand Total
	M	F	Total	M	F	Total	
1968	10	16	26	3	2	5	31
1967	11	16	27	3	2	5	32
1966	11	15	26	3	3	6	32
1965	14	13	27	3	3	6	33
1964	14	13	27	4	3	7	34

Table 14 TETANUS IMMUNISATION - Health Area 6

	YEAR OF BIRTH						Totals
	1968	1967	1966	1965	1961- 1964	Others Under 16	
Primary	263	273	56	12	19	23	646
Booster	12	125	250	50	361	360	1158
Totals	275	398	306	62	380	383	1804



Table 15    DIPHTHERIA IMMUNISATION - Health Area 6

	YEAR OF BIRTH						TOTALS
	1968	1967	1966	1965	1961 - 1964	Others Under 16	
Primary	263	273	56	12	16	1	621
Booster	12	123	243	46	337	193	954
Totals	275	396	299	58	353	194	1575

Table 16    WHOOPING COUGH IMMUNISATION - Health Area 6

	YEAR OF BIRTH						Totals
	1968	1967	1966	1965	1961-1964	Others Under 16	
Primary	260	264	53	10	6	—	593
Booster	11	111	227	38	103	3	493
Totals	271	375	280	48	109	3	1086

Table 17    SMALLPOX VACCINATION - Health Area 6

Age at date of vaccination	Numbers vaccinated	Numbers re-vaccinated
0 - 3 months	2	
3 - 6 months	6	
6 - 9 months	4	
9 -12 months	3	
1 year	278	1
2 - 4	118	8
5 - 15	46	71
Totals	457	80

Table 18 ORAL POLIOMYELITIS - Health Area 6

	YEAR OF BIRTH						Totals
	1968	1967	1966	1965	1961-1964	Others Under 16	
Primary	239	303	66	15	26	4	653
Booster	5	88	98	21	379	45	636
Totals	244	391	164	36	405	49	1289



# ANNUAL REPORT OF THE PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

FOR THE YEAR 1968.

Mr. Chairman, Ladies and Gentlemen,

I have pleasure in presenting my annual report for the year 1968 on the sanitary circumstances of the District. This report is a statutory obligation and is compiled in accordance with the requirements of the Ministry of Health Circular No. 1/69 .

## WATER SUPPLY

The public supply is taken from a deep well sunk into chalk at Mundford Road. two boreholes on Barnham Cross Common and from two boreholes at Two Mile Bottom.

With a total water storage capacity of 2,820,000 gallons there was no shortage of water during the year and the quality of the water was excellent.

Information supplies by the Water Engineer showed that approximately 734,000 gallons of water per day were pumped, of which 353,000 gallons per day were used for industrial purposes, and 378,000 gallons per day for domestic use. Based on an estimated population of 12,500, the average domestic consumption amounted to 30 gallons per head of population, giving a total overall consumption of 58 gallons per head per day.

Water samples taken from the public supply were submitted to the Public Analyst and the Public Health Laboratory Service for chemical and bacteriological examination and the results were highly satisfactory. Copies of the chemical analysis reports and results of bacteriological examinations of both raw and chlorinated water are given as an appendix. The Public Analyst states that the Thetford water supply would not be regarded as plumbo-solvent in the ordinary sense.

All occupied dwellings, excepting nine houses on the extreme boundaries of the Borough, are supplied from the public mains. These nine houses obtain water from private boreholes and wells.

A sample taken from one of the private boreholes was not wholly satisfactory but, after prolonged pumping to waste and fitting a new pump, satisfactory results were obtained.

The following table gives details of water supplied through the public mains:-

Water supply	Number of dwellinghouses	Population supplied
(1) Direct to house	3,618	12,500
(ii) By means of standpipes	8	13

### BATHING STATION

There is as yet no public swimming pool within the Borough, but suitable sites have been considered and a scheme is being prepared generally. The Bathing Station on the River Little Ouse was well patronised during the season, and the water was considered "clean" and safe for bathing purposes. Bacteriologically the counts were not unduly high for such water and frequent inspections of the river banks upstream for possible sources of pollution were made.

### SEWERAGE AND SEWAGE DISPOSAL

The arrangements for sewerage and sewage disposal in the district were adequate. New foul and surface water sewers were laid to serve areas of development for both housing and industrial development areas. Work was commenced on the extension of the Sewage disposal works to cope with a 20,000 population.

There were only fourteen occupied properties in the area without flush toilets. Those dwellings using pail or earth closets are either affected by slum clearance or by new road patterns or are so isolated as to have no sewers available. Three of the latter category of dwellings will shortly be converted to septic tank drainage.

The position at December, 1968, was as follows:-

Number of occupied properties with pail closets	.. ..	7
Number of occupied properties with earth closets	.. ..	1
Number of septic tanks	.. .. .	45

### CONSERVANCY

The weekly collection of soil, from premises with pail closets, has been carried out by Contract.

Septic tanks were emptied, as required, by contract and as a free service to the occupiers. The number of cesspools emptied in this way was 61.



REFUSE COLLECTION AND DISPOSAL

The collection of refuse was carried out on a weekly basis and covered the whole district except for approximately six properties which, because of their extreme isolation from the collecting routes, cannot be accommodated. The collection was direct from the houses and, where possible, rear collections were made. The type of vehicles used were a Dennis Paxit Major II Refuse Collector of 22/30 cubic yards capacity, and a Karrier Ramillies 35 cubic yards Refuse Collection vehicle.

Provision was made for the collection of Trade Refuse at a fixed quarterly charge which varied with the number of bins collected from each premises.

The disposal of refuse was by semi-controlled tipping at a pit outside the district.

HOUSING

(i) General

The number of dwellings, including Council houses, occupied in the District according to the Rate Book was 3,626 and the estimated population figure was 12,500. Based on these figures, the average number of persons per dwelling was 3.45.

235 new dwellings were erected during the year; 50 houses were built by private enterprise, whilst 181 houses and 104 flats were erected by the Council. 18 Dwellings were demolished to make way for other development.

(ii) Unfit Dwellings - Action under the Housing Acts.

A summary of action taken under the Housing Act was as follows:-

Houses demolished . . . . .	22
Families displaced . . . . .	4
Persons rehoused . . . . .	10

A survey of all older type housing in the district was commenced.

As a result of routine inspections and visits to investigate complaints from tenants, informal action was taken to remedy some defect or other at 53 houses.

(iii) Improvement Grants

The number of applications received for Standard Grants to provide dwellings with the five standard amenities fell during 1968 as compared with the total in the previous year. Ten only applications were approved and grant aid amounting to £1,078.1.6d was paid.

Discretionary grant aid amounting to £1,172 was paid in respect of the conversion of 4 almshouses to 2 dwellings of Parker Morris standard.

(iv) Common Lodging Houses

There were no registered common lodging houses in the district.

## INFECTIOUS DISEASES

One case only of scarlet fever was notified.

## VERMINOUS PREMISES

18 premises found to be infested with bugs, fleas and flies were disinfested and cleansed.

## MOVEABLE DWELLINGS - CARAVANS

No site licences were granted during the year under the Caravan Sites and Control Development Act, 1960.

and

At the Annual Survey of caravans and tents carried out in all districts of Norfolk during August week, there were found in Thetford to be 10 caravans used in connection with works of Building and Engineering Construction, 1 unauthorised tent and caravan at Two Mile Bottom Common.

Persons attempting to use common lands in the districts for stationing caravans and tents were asked to move sometimes with the co-operation of the police.

## OFFICES, SHOPS AND RAILWAY PREMISES ACT - 1963

All such premises are required by the Act to be registered with the local authority **unless** they are premises in which only close relatives of the occupier's family are employed or they are mainly factory premises. The Act together with the many Regulations made thereunder, lays down standards for the health, safety, welfare, working conditions and facilities for persons employed in such premises.

The following tables have been abstracted from the Annual Return required under Section 60 by the Ministry of Labour:-

Registrations and General Inspections

Class of Premises	Number of premises registered during the year	Total number of registered premises at end of year	Number of registered premises receiving a general inspection during the year
Offices	4	45	23
Retail Shops	11	86	74
Wholesale shops, warehouses	2	7	7
Catering establishments open to the public, canteens	2	13	3
Fuel storage depots	-	4	4

Analysis of Persons employed in Registered Premises by Workplace

Class of Workplace	Number of Persons Employed
Offices	207
Retail Shops	431
Wholesale departments, warehouses	43
Catering establishments open to the public	85
Canteens	-
Fuel Storage Depots	17
TOTAL	783
Total Males	375
Total Females	408

Number of Accidents Notified 1



## PREVENTION OF DAMAGE BY PESTS ACT, 1949

This Act requires every Local Authority to take such steps as may be necessary to secure as far as practicable that their district is kept free from rats and mice. In addition to dealing with complaints, surveys and treatments of areas were made including farmland, business premises, factories, sewers and all Council owned premises. Dwellinghouses were treated free of charge but business premises were charged on a time plus material basis. Included in the Operator's duties was the destruction of wasps nests, moles and rabbits on Council owned land only, and disinfestation work.

The following extract is taken from the Annual Report made to the Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food:-

PROPERTIES OTHER THAN SEWERS	Type of Property	
	Non-agricultural	Agricultural
1. Number of properties in district	4,997	21
2. (a) Total number of properties (including nearby premises) inspected following notification	296	-
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	71	-
(ii) Mice	23	-
3. (a) Total number of properties inspected for rats and/or mice for reasons other than notification	4,063	21
(b) Number infested by (i) Rats	132	21
(ii) Mice	6	21
SEWERS: Sewers were test baited. Infestations found on housing development sites were treated and cleared.		

## SUPERVISION OF FOOD SUPPLIES AND PREMISES

### (a) Milk Distribution

The number of retail distributors on the register at the end of the year was twelve - ten of these sold a few bottles of milk from shops only. A small amount of milk was retailed by dairymen situated in neighbouring Authority districts.

(b) Inspection of Meat and other Foods

A considerable quantity of food was examined in the shops which resulted in the following list of meat and other foods being condemned and destroyed as unfit for human consumption.

Tomato Puree . . . . .	584 x 5 kilo cans (6,570 lbs.)
Fresh Meat . . . . .	210 lbs.
Canned Pork/Ham . . . . .	81 lbs.
Corned Beef . . . . .	34 lbs.
Butter . . . . .	229 lbs.
Sprouts . . . . .	15 lbs.
Vegetables . . . . .	338 tins
Fruit . . . . .	131 tins
various other tin food . . . . .	95 tins

Reasons for condemnation were blown, damaged, punctured and leaking seams in cans and tins; rancid butter; decomposition and moulds;

(c) Meat Inspection

The use of a private slaughterhouse was discontinued during December 1967, leaving just one licensed slaughterhouse operating within the district. One butcher only killed at this establishment and due to lack of staff and time his throughput was reduced and a considerable amount of meat was bought off the hook from outside the district.

To maintain a 100% post mortem inspection service 98 visits were made to the slaughterhouse, which might appear to be a large number of visits compared with the number of animals slaughtered, but was necessary due to the frequency of slaughtering in small quantities.



The general quality of the animals slaughtered was good and the incidence of disease little different to 1967. Condemnation was mostly confined to offals. Thorough examination of every carcass was made but no cases of cysticerous Bovis or lesions of tuberculosis were found amongst any animals slaughtered. The reasons for condemnation were:- abscesses, flukes, cirrhosis, milk spot and tumours.

The following table gives details of animals killed, together with information regarding numbers and percentages affected by disease:-

	Cattle excluding Cows	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs	Horses
Number killed	90 (151)	-	-	- (-)	69 (231)	-
Number inspected	90 (151)	-	-	- (-)	69 (231)	-
<u>All Diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci</u> Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	13 (25)	-	-	-	4 (8)	-
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than, tuberculosis and cysticerci	14.4% (16.6%)	-	-	-	5.8% (3.5%)	-
<u>Tuberculosis only</u> Whole carcasses condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Percentage of the number in- spected affected with tuber- culosis	-	-	-	-	-	-
<u>Cysticercosis</u> Carcasses of which some part or organ was condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-
Carcasses submitted to treat- ment by refrigeration	-	-	-	-	-	-
Generalised and totally condemned	-	-	-	-	-	-

Figures in brackets relate to 1967

All diseases except Tuberculosis and Cysticerci		Tuberculosis Only	
Offal	Meat	Offal	Meat
208 lbs (346 lbs)	15 lbs (39 lbs) )	- -	- ( 30 lbs)

Figures in brackets relate to 1967

(d) Six licences were issued to suitable persons authorising them to slaughter animals by approved methods of stunning. None authorised the holder to slaughter horses.

(e) Food Premises

Routine inspections were made at all the food premises in the district and where necessary advice was given and, in some cases, informal notices served requesting repairs or alterations to keep premises up to the standards required by the Hygiene Regulations.

Since the housing estates have reached sizeable proportions under the G. L. C. expansion scheme a large number of mobile shops selling fish and chips, wet fish, ice-cream, vegetables, fruit and confectionery etc. have been operating in the area. Inspection of these vehicles revealed contraventions of the Hygiene Regulations which were dealt with by informal action.

Investigations were carried out following receipt of a complaint concerning the purchase of a crumpet containing a foreign object resembling an insect. Chemical and microscopical examination revealed a rounded cylindrical aggregation of black material consisting essentially of carbonised starchy material. The matter was discussed with the firm concerned but no further action was taken.

The number of food premises registered under Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955 was as follows:-

- 1. For the purpose of "the preparation of fish by any process of cooking, for sale for human consumption"..... 2
- 2. For the purpose of "the sale of Ice - Cream" .....21
- 3. For the purpose of "the preparation or manufacture of sausages or potted, pressed, pickled, or preserved food intended for sale for human consumption including the pre- aration of meat by any process of cooking" .....10

The number of food premises in the area by type of business is as follows (Food Hygiene (General) Regulations, 1960):-

Type of Premises	Number	Complying with Regulation 16	To which Reg. 19 applies	Complying with Reg. 19
Cafes/Restaurants	15	15	15	15
Greengrocers/Grocers	24	24	24	24
Confectionery, Cakes, etc.	17	17	17	17
Public Houses	18	18	18	18
Fish Shops	5	5	5	5
Bakehouses	2	2	2	2
General Stores	10	10	10	10
Butchers Shops	11	11	11	11
Food Factories	3	3	3	3
Factory Canteens	18	18	18	18
School Kitchens	6	6	6	6
Cold Storage Depot	1	1	-	-
Food Warehouses	5	5	-	-

(f) Ice-Cream

There were 19 premises registered in accordance with Section 16 of the Food and Drugs Act, 1955, for the sale of Ice-cream. In all cases, the Ice-cream was sold as wrapped. A number of Ice-cream vans visit the town every day selling soft Ice-cream. 14 samples were submitted for bacteriological examination - 13 were re- turned as Grade 1 and 1 as Grade II.

(g) The Meat (Staining and Sterilization) Regulations, 1960.

The Cold Store received throughout the year imported consignments of beef and sheep lungs, spleens, tongue roots, trimmings and horse meat which was unfit for human consumption, and stored it pending delivery to a Pet Foods factory for steril- ization and processing.

Under the above Regulations, notification was received from the Port Health Authority prior to delivery from the docks and supervision was maintained on the un- loading, delivery, marking, storage and release at the Railway Station and the Cold Store. Approximately 54,000 cartons, bags etc. (approx. 1500 tons) were notified by Port Authorities and received in Thetford.

The quantity of unfit offals received was considerably less than in 1967 but this was solely due to the restrictions placed on the import of such material during the outbreak of foot and mouth disease during the year.

FACTORIES ACT, 1961  
Part 1 of the Act

1. Inspections for purposes of provisions as to health (including the inspections made by Public Health Inspectors).

Premises	Number on Register	Number of		
		Inspections	Written notices	Occupiers prosecuted
(i.) Factories in which Sections 1, 2, 3, 4, and 6 are to be enforced by Local Authorities.	2	2*	-	-
(ii) Factories not included in (i) in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority	111	81*	7	-
(iii) Other premises in which Section 7 is enforced by the Local Authority. (Excluding out-workers premises)	45	67*	15	-
Total	158	150*	22	-

\*The figures given here are much less than the actual number of visits because those factories, which are also food premises, received many visits during the year, although they were not made primarily under the Factories Act. Minor infringements were dealt with informally.



# FACTORIES ACT

## Part 1 of the Act (continued)

Particulars	Number of cases in which defects were found				Number of cases in which prosecutions were instituted
	Found	Remedied	Referred		
			To H. M. Inspector	By H. M. Inspector	
Want of cleanliness	8	8	-	-	-
Overcrowding	-	-	-	-	-
Unreasonable temperature	-	-	-	-	-
Inadequate ventilation	-	-	-	-	-
Ineffective drainage of floors	-	-	-	-	-
Sanitary Conveniences					
(a) Insufficient	2	2	-	-	-
(b) Unsuitable or defective	18	18	-	-	-
(c) For separate sexes	-	-	-	-	-
Other offences against the Act (not including offences relating to Outwork)	-	-	-	-	-
Total	26	26	-	-	-

## Part VIII of the Act

### Outwork

(Sections 110 and 111)

Nature of Work	No. of out-workers in August list required by Sect. 110 (1) (c)	No. of cases of default in sending lists to the Council	No. of prosecutions for failure to supply lists	No. of instances of work in unwholesome premises	Notices served	Prosecutions
Wearing apparel making etc.	-	-	-	-	-	-
Cleaning and washing	-	-	-	-	-	-
Total	-	-	-	-	-	-



## Clean Air Act 1956

As required by Section 3 of the act applications for "Prior Approval" were submitted to the local authority where persons wished to instal or alter boiler/furnace plant. Seventeen such applications were received and the proposed installations were vetted to ensure that they would operate efficiently without causing a nuisance. The height of the chimney stacks necessary to properly disperse the products of combustion were calculated and agreed with the firms concerned.

During the year an emission from the furnace plant of a large factory gave rise to a nuisance on the Industrial Estate — experiments were tried to ascertain if it were possible to burn wood dust in the boilers but a considerable amount of black smoke was emitted from the stack. Slow feed loaders were fitted and various adjustments made to reduce the emission with limited success and the problems to adapt the existing plant were still being investigated at the end of 1968.

Two other smoke nuisances were dealt with successfully by informal action.

## Other Matters

### (i) Agriculture (Safety, Health and Welfare) Provisions Act, 1956.

Visits of inspections were made at farms to ensure that employees were provided with satisfactory sanitary accommodation. In general, the farms are small and employees are able to use the accommodation at the farm buildings.

### (ii) Shop Acts 1950

Routine inspections have been made to ensure that shops comply with the legislation relating to suitable ventilation, lighting, seating, welfare, sanitary accommodation, washing facilities etc.

The Local Authority being a Borough Council are also responsible for the Shop Hours of Closing provisions and your Public Health Inspector is the appointed Shops Act Inspector for this purpose. This entails visits out of normal working hours, during the evening up to 10pm and also Sunday surveys of the area.

### (iii) Pet Animals Act 1951

One licence was granted under this Act during the year.

### (iv) Scrap Metal Dealers Act, 1964

Nine such dealers were registered under the Act and visits were made to all premises for inspection and to ascertain that records were kept as required by legislation and to check stock held against the recorded details.

### (vi) Noise Abatement Act 1960

A petition signed by thirty-two people concerning a noise nuisance (high pitched humming noise) from a factory on the Industrial Estate was received. The nuisance was abated by adjustments to fans and to the insertion of sound attenuators in the pneumatic conveying system, to stop the transmission of vibration etc. through the ducting.

In conclusion, I would like to express appreciation and thanks to Members of the Council for their continued support and consideration and to the Medical Officer and all other members of the staff for their assistance and co-operation.

R. C. R. Robinson,  
Public Health Inspector.

Cert. No. U.462.  
Lab. No. 4760/W.

Telephone No. 24555

2nd January, 1968.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS OF WATER

Sample received 13th December, 1967 from Thetford Borough Council.

Marked Headworks - Two Mile Bottom.

Appearance when received clear.

Nature of Deposit nil.

Colour nil.

Odour nil.

Reaction faintly alkaline. pH 7.6

Taste satisfactory.

RESULTS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS IN  
PARTS PER MILLION.

Ammoniacal nitrogen	0.01	Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	
Albuminoid nitrogen	0.01	Total	225
Nitrate nitrogen	7	Carbonate (temporary)	180
Nitrite nitrogen	nil.	Non-carbonate (permanent)	45
Chloride as Cl.	14	Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	180
Permanganate Value (4 hr.)	0.04.	Free carbon dioxide	9
		Total solids (at 180 C.)	295
		Iron (total)	0.07
		Metals in solution	nil.

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of colonies developing per ml. in 48 hours at 37° C nil.

Presumptive coliform organisms - Probable Number per 100 ml. nil.

OPINION

The organic quality of this water is very good and its bacteriological condition is very satisfactory. The total hardness is approximately 16° Clark, all but 3° of which is temporary. The reaction is well on the alkaline side of neutrality and corrosive action upon metals is not to be expected. In our opinion, this water is very suitable for drinking and general purposes.

for Lincolne Sutton and Wood Limited.

Signed: Eric C. Wood.

LINCOLNE SUTTON AND WOOD

Telephone 24555  
Cert. No. U.461  
Lab. No. 4759/W.

Clarence House,  
6, Clarence Road,  
NORWICH.  
2nd January, 1968.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS OF WATER

Sample received: 13th December 1967 from Thetford Borough Council.  
Marked: Barnham Cross Headworks - Public Supply  
Appearance when received: clear  
Nature of Deposit: nil.  
Colour: nil. Odour: nil.  
Reaction: Faintly alkaline: pH, 7.7 Taste: satisfactory.

RESULTS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Ammoniacal nitrogen: 0.02	Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub> :
Albuminoid nitrogen: '0.01	Total: 230
Nitrate nitrogen: 3.5	Carbonate (temporary): 180.
Nitrite nitrogen: nil.	Non-carbonate (permanent): 50
Chloride as Cl. 16	Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub> : 180
Permanganate Value (4 hr.): 0.08	Free carbon dioxide: 7
	Total solids (at 180° C.): 280
	Iron (total): 0.08
	Metals in solution: nil.

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of colonies developing per ml. in 48 hours at 37° C.: nil  
Presumptive coliform organisms - Probable Number per 100 ml.: nil.  
E. Coli Type 1 ("faecal") - Probable Number per 100 ml.: nil.

OPINION

This water is of very good organic and bacteriological quality. The analysis as a whole differs little from that of previous samples. In our opinion this water is very suitable for drinking and general purposes.

For Lincolne Sutton and Wood Ltd.,  
Signed: Eric. C. Wood.



APPENDIX  
LINCOLNE SUTTON AND WOOD

Telephone 24555  
Cert. No. U.463.  
Lab. No. 4761/W.

Clarence House,  
6, Clarence Road,  
NORWICH.  
2nd January 1968 .

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS OF WATER

Sample received: 13th December 1967 from Thetford Borough Council.

Marked: Tap off rising main, Headworks - Mundford Road.

Appearance when received: clear.

Nature of Deposit: nil.

Colour: nil.

Odour: nil.

Reaction: faintly alkaline pH 7.6

Taste: satisfactory.

RESULTS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS IN PARTS PER MILLION

Ammoniacal nitrogen: neg trace

Albuminoid nitrogen: 0.01

Nitrate nitrogen: 8

Nitrite nitrogen: nil.

Chloride as Cl: 22

Permanganate Value (4 hr.): 0.04

Hardness as CaCO<sub>3</sub>:

Total: 260

Carbonate (temporary): 195

Non-carbonate (permanent): 65

Alkalinity as CaCO<sub>3</sub>: 195

Free carbon dioxide: 13

Total solids (at 180° C.): 360

Iron (total): 0.12

Metals in solution: nil.

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of colonies developing per ml. in 48 hours at 37° C: nil.

Presumptive coliform organisms - Probable Number per 100 ml.: nil.

E. Coli Type 1 ("faecal") - Probable Number per 100 ml.: nil

OPINION

The water is of very good organic and bacteriological quality. The analysis as a whole differs little from that of the previous sample from this source (our Cert. No. T.1387). In our opinion this water is very suitable for drinking and general purposes.

for Lincolne Sutton and Wood Limited.

signed: Eric C. Wood.

Cert. No. U. 1116.  
Lab. No. 5719/W.

Telephone No. 24555  
25th June, 1968.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS OF WATER

Sample received 5th June, 1968 from Thetford Borough Council.

Marked Water - Two Mile Bottom Headworks. Ref: TBC/68/3C.

Appearance when received clear.

Nature of Deposit Nil.

Colour Nil

Odour nil.

Reaction faintly alkaline. pH 7.6

Taste satisfactory.

RESULTS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS IN  
PARTS PER MILLION.

Ammonical nitrogen	0.03	Hardness as $\text{CaCO}_3$ :	
Albuminoid nitrogen	0.02	Total	220
Nitrate nitrogen	6	Carbonate (temporary)	185
Nitrite nitrogen	nil.	Non-carbonate (permanent)	35
Chloride as Cl.	14	Alkalinity as $\text{CaCO}_3$	185
Permanganate Value (4 hr.)	0.18	Free carbon dioxide	10
		Total solids (at 180 C.)	290
		Iron (total)	0.05
		Metals in solution	nil.

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of colonies developing per ml. in 48 hours at 37°C	nil.
Presumptive coliform organisms—Probable Number per 100 ml	nil.
E. Coli Type 1 ("faecal")—Probable Number per 100 ml.	nil

OPINION

The organic quality of this water is good and its bacteriological condition is very satisfactory. There are no significant changes in the analysis as a whole since this water was last analysed (our Cert. U.462). In our opinion this water is very suitable for drinking and general purposes.

For Lincolne Sutton and Wood Limited.  
Signed: Eric C. Wood.



Cert. No. U. 1117.  
Lab. No. 5720/W.

Telephone No. 24555  
25th June, 1968.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS OF WATER

Sample received 5th June, 1968 from Thetford Borough Council.

Marked Water - Barnham Cross. Headworks. Ref: TBC/68/2C.

Appearance when received Clear.

Nature of Deposit nil.

Colour nil Odour Nil

Reaction Faintly alkaline. pH 7.6 Taste Satisfactory.

RESULTS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS IN  
PARTS PER MILLION

Ammoniacal nitrogen	neg. trace.	Hardness as CaCO <sub>3</sub> :	
Albuminoid nitrogen	neg. trace.	Total	210
Nitrate nitrogen	3	Carbonate (temporary)	180
Nitrite nitrogen	nil	Non-carbonate (permanent)	30
Chloride as Cl.	16	Alkalinity as CaCO <sub>3</sub>	180
Permanganate Value (4 hr.)	0.12	Free carbon dioxide	10
		Total solids (at 180 C)	265
		Iron (total)	0.06
		Metals in solution	nil

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of colonies developing per ml. in 48 hours at 37°C	nil.
Presumptive coliform organisms—Probable Number per 100 ml.	nil.
E. Coli Type 1 (“faecal”—Probable Number per 100 ml.	nil.

OPINION

The water is of very good quality both organically and bacteriologically. There is organically no difference between this analysis and the last (our Cert. U.461). In our opinion this water is very suitable for drinking and general purposes.

for Lincolne Sutton and Wood Limited.  
Signed: Eric C. Wood.

Cert. No. U.1118.  
Lab. No. 5721/W

Telephone No. 24555  
25th June, 1968.

CERTIFICATE OF ANALYSIS OF WATER

Sample received 5th June 1968 from Thetford Borough Council.

Marked Water - Mundford Road Headworks. Ref: TBC/68/4C.

Appearance when received Clear

Nature of Deposit Nil.

Colour Nil.

Odour nil.

Reaction Faintly alkaline. pH 7.5

Taste satisfactory

RESULTS OF CHEMICAL ANALYSIS IN  
PARTS PER MILLION.

Ammoniacal nitrogen	neg. trace	Hardness as $\text{CaCO}_3$ :	
Albuminoid nitrogen	0.01	Total	255
Nitrate nitrogen	8	Carbonate (temporary)	195
Nitrite nitrogen	nil	Non-carbonate (permanent)	60
Chloride as Cl	22	Alkalinity as $\text{CaCO}_3$	195
Permanganate Value (4 hr.)	0.16	Free carbon dioxide	14
		Total solids (at 180 C.)	355
		Iron (total)	0.04
		Metals in solution	nil.

BACTERIOLOGICAL RESULTS

Number of colonies developing per ml. in 48 hours at 37°C	nil.
Presumptive coliform organisms—Probable Number per 100 ml	nil.
E. Coli Type 1 (“faecal”)—Probable Number per 100 ml.	nil

OPINION

This water is of very good organic quality and the bacteriological condition is very satisfactory. The analysis is very similar to that of the previous sample (our Cert. U. 463). In our opinion this water is very suitable for drinking and general purposes.

for Lincolne Sutton and Wood Limited  
Signed: Eric C. Wood.

# BACTERIOLOGICAL EXAMINATION OF WATER

	Source	Probable numbers per 100 ml.	
		Coliform bacilli	Bact. coli (type 1 )
	Mundford Road Headworks (Raw water)	0	0
	Barnham Cross Headworks (Raw water)	0	0
	Two Mile Bottom Headworks (Raw water)	0	0
	Beatty Close (Public Supply)	0	0
	Mackenzie Road (Public Supply)	0	0
	Vicarage Road (Public Supply)	0	0
	Fir Road (Public Supply)	0	0
	Olleys Farm (Private Supply: well)	0	0
	Olleys Farm Bungalow (Private Supply: well)	0	0
	Bore, Two Mile Bottom (Private Supply)	0	0
	Bore, Railway Cottages, Two Mile Bottom (Private Supply)	18	0
	Barnham Cross Headworks (Raw water)	0	0
	Two Mile Bottom Headworks (Raw water)	0	0
	Mundford Road Headworks (Raw water)	0	0
	White Hart Street (Public Supply)	0	0
	Well, Croxton Park (Private Supply)	0	0
	King Street (Private Supply)	0	0
	Queensway (Private Supply)	0	0
	Staniforth Road (Public Supply)	0	0









